



**BEFORE THE
FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION**

In Re

Keith Butler for US Senate

)
)
)

MUR 5661

2005 JUN 22 A 11:06

**RECEIVED
FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF GENERAL
COUNSEL**

AFFIDAVIT OF KEITH BUTLER

I, Keith Butler, being duly sworn, do depose and say:

1. I make this statement in connection with MUR 5661 to record certain facts that are within my personal knowledge.

2. I reside in Troy, Michigan, and I am a candidate for the United States Senate.

3. I have reviewed the May 24th allegations of the Complainant, John Geisler, a gentleman associated with one of my opponents in the primary.

4. I did not say on February 4th that I had raised \$100,000 for my campaign for the U.S. Senate. At that time (in fact from the last week in December, 2004 until mid April of this year) I was only exploring the race and consistently communicated that. The Complaint gives the impression that I spoke to the 1000 delegates at the convention as one body. This is incorrect. All potential candidates were allowed only to address the many separate congressional district caucuses. At each caucus stop I did say that I had raised over \$100,000 for my exploratory effort. My Exploratory Committee was already established prior to the referenced convention. I first announced to my congregation on New Year's Eve, 12/31/04, that I was going to explore such a race (See attached George Weeks column 1/2/05) and money had in fact thereafter been contributed to help with this exploratory effort. As required, such contributions will be reported by July 15th in our first filing due after our announcement.

5. I initiated an exploratory effort because I felt that to make a decision of this magnitude, to run for the U.S. Senate, would require some due diligence. I needed to listen to, among other things, what issues were on the minds of people and to see whether or not the ideas that I believe in were in concert with the ideas of others across the state. It was also important to see if there would be enough volunteers in different parts of the state who would be interested in being part of the effort, if such were ever undertaken. I also had to ask myself if I had the ability to raise funds and develop an organization for what would certainly be the equivalent of launching a major business enterprise.

6. "High quality" informative literature was distributed at the Republican Party Convention in February by volunteers who also attend my church. But, all literature was labeled as paid for by Keith Butler For U. S. Senate Exploratory Committee and no where does the literature state that I am going to run. The literature (copy attached) is all biographical including pictures of my family and past public involvements in politics. It also includes excerpts from the Weeks column referenced above. With this piece of literature I was trying to see if my background would attract sufficient interest and volunteers for a U.S. Senate race, if I were to make a final decision to run.

7. I had no "campaign workers" at that convention since I had no campaign. I did have volunteers who had offered to help who, among other things, introduced me to people at the different caucuses, collected names of potential volunteers, and who distributed my exploratory literature.

8. The Complaint alleges "campaign" expenses were incurred at the convention. Since there was no campaign, there are no such expenses; however, any expenses incurred related to my exploratory effort as a result of that February convention and other activities during the exploratory effort, both before and after the convention, will be included in the first required filing. This filing is due July 15, 2005 since I formally declared my intention to enter the race on April 12, 2005.

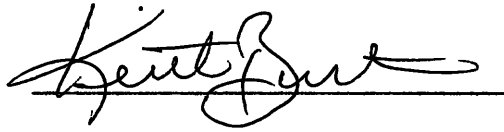
9. I did not file a Statement of Candidacy until my decision in April and subsequent announcement that, after appropriate due diligence (four months), I was in fact going to run for the U.S. Senate. And again, as required by law, the first report is due July 15th and it will detail exploratory committee expenses up to the April announcement in addition to campaign expenses since the announcement through June 30th.

10. My exploratory effort was run by me out of space in the basement of my home and not out of my office at the place of my employment, Word of Faith International Christian Center. I also used a post office suite number to collect mail and I asked a friend to create a website. Only this month, after the decision was made to run and announced in April of this year, did I officially open a campaign headquarters in Southfield to begin a precinct by precinct organizational effort.

Further affiant sayeth not.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

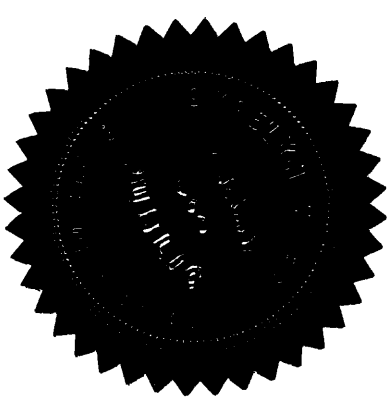
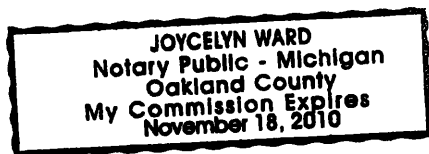
Executed on June 21st 2005.



Keith Butler

Subscribed and Sworn to before me
this 21st day of June, 2005


NOTARY PUBLIC, COUNTY OF OAKLAND, MI
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: 11-18-2010



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Red Wings/NHL
Tigers/MLB
Shock/WNBA
MSU
U-M
More Colleges
High Schools
Golf
Motor Sports
Outdoor

Sunday, January 2, 2005

Pastor considers Senate run

Church founder and GOP-backer the Rev. Keith Butler sets sights on Stabenow's seat.

By George Weeks / The Detroit News

The Rev. Keith A. Butler, a former Detroit councilman who has helped Republican candidates for governor and president, is considering running against first-term U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow in 2006.

Butler, founding pastor of the Southfield-based Word of Faith International Christian Center Church, received a standing ovation at the conclusion of a New Year's Eve service upon informing his congregation that he is forming an exploratory committee for a possible challenge of Stabenow.

"She is indeed vulnerable," Butler, 49, said in an interview. "Ask 100 people to name what she has done. They can't say what she brings to the table. Our state needs more assistance from Washington."

Republicans are not expected to have the same long search for a candidate against Stabenow as they did in 2002 against five-term Sen. Carl Levin, Michigan's longest-serving senator, when several high-profile recruits declined to run. U.S. Rep. Candice Miller of Harrison Township, the former secretary of state who carried all 83 counties in 1998, is among those pondering a bid for the nomination to challenge Stabenow. The News reported in December that President Bush is encouraging her to run for the Senate.

Republican National Committee member Chuck Yob, who was among party leaders contacted by Butler, said Saturday "we have a raft" of prospective challengers, but he believes Butler "is in, no matter who runs. He's conservative and formidable."

"He's not well-known statewide, but he's a proven vote-getter in Detroit."

A rare Republican on the City Council, Butler was elected in 1989 to a four-year term.

Butler was an adviser on urban matters for 1982 gubernatorial nominee Richard Headlee; state chairman of Blacks for Reagan-Bush in 1984; statewide director of the urban coalition of the Bill Lucas for Governor Committee in 1986; a Michigan leader of New York Congressman Jack Kemp's 1988 bid for the presidential nomination; and



Butler

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Marketplace Detroit

- Browse the Classifieds
- New & Used Cars
- Employment
- Homes or Apartments
- Shop Online

Home Delivery Center

- Start home delivery
- Renew subscription
- Customer service

(none)

Metro/State

- Metro/State index for Sunday, January 2, 2005
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- Pastor considers Senate run
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- Michigan pompon team headed to D.C.
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- Eateries await spin-off Campus Martius rink trade
- Faith steers shelter volunteers
- Detroit Water to show burbs proposed rates
- Nonprofit offers the needy new, affordable apartments
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- Ann Arbor may seek tax for ash trees
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- Palace weighs \$20 million expansion
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 Faith Talk
 Autos Talk
 Wings Talk
 Lions Talk
 Pistons Talk
 Tiger Talk
 Big 10 Talk
 High Schools
 Movie Talk
 Tech Talk
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President George H.W. Bush's designee as deputy chairman of the 1992 Republican National Convention.

Lansing businessman Saul Anuzis, the only announced candidate to replace retiring Betsy DeVos as chair of the Michigan GOP, said Butler, former member of the Republican State Committee, gets high marks in the party for his efforts on behalf of statewide candidates and for being an articulate communicator on state and national issues.

Butler is among six religious leaders who do regular faith and policy opinion columns for The Detroit News.

In addition to being senior pastor of his 21,000-member Michigan congregation, he has bishop status and oversees 15 ministries elsewhere.

Butler and his wife, Deborah, have three children, who serve with them in the ministry.

You can reach George Weeks at 313(222)2470 or gweeks@detnews.com.

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- Higher temps should melt Metro area's winter woes
- Mayoral race gets another hopeful
- Eastpointe court offers online filing
- Bars try to get patrons home safely on New Year's
- Actor Samuel L. Jackson isn't afraid to speak up
- Dove petition drive will meet deadline
- Plan would let sewage flow into Mich. lakes
- Macomb mourns another Marine
- 7 kids are removed from parents' Leonard home
- Faraway deaths, in war or weather, resound to those of us safe at home
- Marine from Mount Clemens dies in Iraq
- Metropark might add water slides
- New laws take aim at junk cars
- 4 murdered Detroiters remembered

Sections for this date

Sunday, January 2, 2005

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My name is George Bridges. I reside at
exploratory website for Mr. Keith Butler's exploratory effort around the time of January
18, 2005 regarding a race for the U.S. Senate. The site went active on January 28, 2005. I
did not put a link on the exploratory website to the website of Word of Faith International
Christian Center.

George H Bridges
George Bridges

Subscribed and Sworn to before me
this 17th day of JUNE, 2005

Verlinda Wallace
NOTARY PUBLIC, COUNTY OF WAYNE, MI
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: _____

VERLINDA WALLACE
NOTARY PUBLIC WAYNE CO., MI
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES Dec 14, 2007

Please add these published pieces as examples for **MUR5661**.
It is my contention that Keith Butler was running a full-fledged campaign as early as February 4TH 2005. At the Feb. 4TH Republican State Convention his campaign put out more literature and put on a larger reception than any announced candidate at that convention. As well as visiting all 15 congressional delegations and speaking to how well his campaign fund raising was going
Also during the first 3 months of 2005 Keith Butler attended County Lincoln Dinners and had signed in as a candidate so he would be announced and may also have a chance to address the audience as a candidate
Sincerely
John Geisler

Frist: Oakland can deliver in 2006

Web-posted Feb 26, 2005

By SVEN GUSTAFSON

Of The Daily Oakland Press

PONTIAC - Speaking to a capacity crowd during a Friday dinner event celebrating tradition, U.S. Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist outlined the Republican legislative agenda and challenged Democrats in the Senate to give judicial nominees an up-or-down vote.

Headlining a \$65 per-plate fund-raiser for the 116th annual Oakland County Lincoln Republican Club dinner at the Centerpoint Marriott, Frist, a Tennessee Republican, told the party faithful he was confident they could deliver the vote for Republican candidates in 2006.

Frist, a former heart surgeon and author, told a wide assortment of prominent local, county, state and federal Republican officials that he needed help defeating Democratic incumbent Sen. Debbie Stabenow of Lansing. Stabenow faces her first Senate re-election bid in 2006, and already at least **three candidates have announced their candidacy for the race -Rev. Keith Butler of Southfield;**

Detroit Free Press (MI)

2. Pastor considers Senate run

January 2, 2005 • 418 words • ID: det20544105

The Rev. Keith A. Butler, a former Detroit councilman who has helped Republican candidates for governor and president, is considering running against first-term U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow in 2006. Butler, founding pastor of the Southfield-based Word of Faith International Christian Center Church, received a standing ovation at the conclusion of a New Year's Eve service upon informing his congregation that he is forming an exploratory committee.

Detroit News

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2005 JUN 27 A 9:16

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